

# PLE

PLEBEIAN. *n. f.* [*plebeius*, Fr. *plebeius*, Lat.] One of the lower people.

Let him  
Hoist thee up to the shouting plebeians.  
You're plebeians, if they be senators.  
Upon the least intervals of peace, the quarrels between  
the nobles and the plebeians would revive.

PLEBEIAN. *adj.*  
1. Popular; consisting of mean persons.  
As wine are to gardens, so are tumults to parliaments,  
and plebeian concourses to publick counsels.

2. Belonging to the lower ranks.  
He through the midst that unmark'd,  
In shew plebeian angel militant  
Of lowest order.

3. Vulgar; low; common.  
To apply notions philosophical to plebeian terms; or to say,  
where the notions cannot fitly be reconciled, that there  
wanteth a term or nomenclature for it, as the ancients used,  
they be but shifts of ignorance.

The differences of mouldable and not mouldable, scissible  
and not scissible are plebeian notions.  
Dis honour not the vengeance I design'd.  
A queen! and own a base plebeian mind!

PLEDGE. *n. f.* [*plege*, Fr. *pieggio*, Italian.]  
1. Any thing put to pawn.  
2. A gage; any thing given by way of warrant or security; a  
pawn.

These men at the first were only pitied; the great humility,  
zeal and devotion, which appeared to be in them, was in all  
men's opinion a pledge of their harmless meaning.

If none appear to prove upon thy person  
Thy heinous, manifest and many treasons;  
There is my pledge, I'll prove it on thy heart.

That voice their liveliest pledge  
Of hope in fears and dangers.  
Money is necessary both for counters and for pledges, and  
carrying with it even reckoning and security.

Hymen shall be aton'd, shall join two hearts,  
And Aribert shall be the pledge of peace.  
3. A surety; a bail; an hostage.

What purpose could there be of treason, when the Guai-  
nians offered to leave pledges, fix for one.  
Good sureties will we have for thy return,  
And at thy pledges peril keep thy day.

PLEDGE. *v. a.* [*pleiger*, Fr. *piegiare*, Italian.]  
1. To put in pawn.  
Asleep and naked as an Indian lay,  
An honest factor stole a gem away;  
He pledg'd it to the knight; the knight had wit,  
So kept the diamond.

2. To give as warrant or security.  
3. To secure by a pledge.  
I accept her;  
And here to pledge my vow, I give my hand.

4. To invite to drink, by accepting the cup or health after  
another.  
The fellow, that  
Parts bread with him, and pledges  
The breath of him in a divided draught,  
Is th' readiest man to kill him.

To you noble lord of Westmoreland.  
I pledge your grace.  
That hexameter orator began the king of Homebia's  
health; he presently pledg'd it.

PLEDGET. *n. f.* [*plagget*, Dutch.] A small mass of lint.  
I applied a pledget of basilicon.  
PLEIADS. *n. f.* [*pleiades*, Lat. *πλειάδες*.] A northern con-  
stellation.

The pleiades before him danc'd,  
Shedding sweet influence.  
Then sailors quarter'd heav'n, and found a name  
For pleiads, hyads and the northern car.

PLENARILY. *adv.* [*plenarius*.] Fully; completely.  
The cause is made a plenary cause, and ought to be deter-  
mined plenarily.

PLENARY. *adj.* [*plenus*, Lat.] Full; complete.  
I am far from denying that compliance on my part, for  
plenary consent it was not, to his destruction.

The cause is made a plenary cause.  
A treatise on a subject should be plenary or full, so that no-  
thing may be wanting, nothing which is proper omitted.

PLENARY. *n. f.* Decisive procedure.  
A bare institution without induction does not make a  
plenary against the king, where he has a title to present.

PLENARINESS. *n. f.* [*plenarius*.] Fulness; completeness.  
PLENILUNARY. *adj.* [*plenilunium*, Lat.] Relating to  
the full moon.  
If we add the two Egyptian days in every month, the in-  
terlunary and plenilunary exemptions, there would arise above  
an hundred more.

# PLE

PLENIPOTENCE. *n. f.* [*plenipotens*, Lat.] Fulness  
of power.

PLENIPOTENT. *adj.* [*plenipotens*, Lat.] Invested with full  
power.  
My substitutes I send you, and create  
Plenipotents on earth, of matchless might  
Issuing from me.

PLENIPOTENTIARY. *n. f.* [*plenipotentiaire*, Fr.] A negotiator  
invested with full power.  
They were only the plenipotentiary monks of the patriarchal  
monks.

PLENIST. *n. f.* [*plenus*, Lat.] One that holds all space  
to be full of matter.  
Those spaces, which the vacuists would have empty, be-  
cause devoid of air, the plenists do not prove replenished with  
subtle matter by any sensible effects.

PLENITUDE. *n. f.* [*plenitudo*, from *plenus*, Lat. *plenitudo*, Fr.]  
1. Fulness; the contrary to vacuity.  
If there were every where an absolute plenitude and density  
without any pores between the particles of bodies, all bodies  
of equal dimensions would contain an equal quantity of mat-  
ter, and consequently be equally ponderous.

2. Repletion; animal fulness; pléthory.  
3. Exuberance; abundance.  
4. Completeness.

The plenitude of William's fame  
Can no accumulated furies receive.  
PLENTEOUS. *adj.* [*plenus*.] Copious; exuberant; abundant.

Author of evil, unknown till thy revolt  
Now plenteous these acts of hateful strife.  
Two plenteous fountains the whole prospect crown'd  
This through the gardens leads its streams around.

2. Fruitful; fertile.  
Take up the fifth part of the land in the seven plenteous  
years.  
Lab'ring the soil and reaping plenteous crop.

PLENTEOUSLY. *adv.* [*plenteus*.] Copiously; abun-  
dantly; exuberantly.  
Thy due from me is tears,  
Which nature, love and filial tenderness  
Shall, O dear father, pay thee plenteously.

God created the great whales and each  
Soul living, each that creeps, which plenteously  
The waters generated.

God proves us in this life, that he may the more plenteously  
reward us in the next.  
PLENTEOUSNESS. *n. f.* [*plenteus*.] Abundance; fer-  
tility.

The seven years of plenteousness in Egypt were ended.  
PLENTIFUL. *adj.* [*plenus* and *full*.] Copious; abundant; ex-  
uberant; fruitful.

To Amalthea he gave a country, bending like a horn;  
whence the tale of Amalthea's plentiful horn.  
He that is plentiful in expences, will hardly be preserved  
from decay.

If it be a long winter, it is commonly a more plentiful  
year.  
When they had a plentiful harvest, the farmer had hardly  
any corn.

Alcibiades was a young man of noble birth, excellent edu-  
cation and a plentiful fortune.  
PLENTIFULLY. *adv.* [*plentiful*.] Copiously; abundantly.

They were not multiplied before, but they were at that  
time plentifully increased.  
PLENTIFULNESS. *n. f.* [*plentiful*.] The state of being  
plentiful; abundance; fertility.

PLENTY. *n. f.* [*plenus*, full.]  
1. Abundance; such a quantity as is more than enough.  
Peace,  
Dear nurse of arts, plenty and joyful birth.

What makes land, as well as other things, dear, is plenty  
of buyers, and but few sellers; and to plenty of sellers and  
few buyers makes land cheap.

2. Fruitfulness; exuberance.  
The teeming clouds  
Descend in gladness plenty o'er the world.

3. It is used, I think, barbarously for plentiful.  
To graze with thy calves,  
Where water is plenty.

If reasons were as plenty as black berries, I would give no  
man a reason on compulsion.  
4. A state in which enough is had and enjoyed.  
Ye shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the  
Lord.

# PLI

PLEONASM. *n. f.* [*pleonasmus*, Fr. *pleonasmus*, Lat.] A figure  
of rhetoric, by which more words are used than are necessary.

PLESH. *n. f.* [A word used by Spenser instead of *pleth*, for the  
convenience of rhyme.] A puddle; a boggy marsh.  
Out of the wound the red blood flowed fresh,  
That underneath his feet soon made a purple plesh.

PLETHORA. *n. f.* [*πλεθώρα*.] The state in which  
the vessels are fuller of humours than is agreeable to a nat-  
ural state or health; arises either from a diminution of some  
natural evacuations, or from debauch and feeding higher or  
more in quantity than the ordinary powers of the viscera can  
digest: evacuations and exercise are its remedies.

The diseases of the fluids are a plethora, or too great abun-  
dance of laudable juices.  
PLETHORE'TICK. *adj.* [*plethora*.] Having a full habit.

PLETHORICK. *adj.* [*plethora*.] Having a full habit.  
The fluids, as they consist of spirit, water, salts, oil and  
terrestrial parts, differ according to the redundancy of the  
whole or of any of these; and therefore the plethorick are  
phlegmatick, oily, saline, carthy or dry.

PLETHORY. *n. f.* [*plethora*, Fr. from *πλεθώρα*.] Fulness of  
habit.  
In too great repletion, the elastic force of the tube throws  
the fluid with too great a force, and subjects the animal to  
the diseases depending upon a plethory.

PLEVIN. *n. f.* [*plevina*, Fr. *plevina*, law Lat.] In law, a  
warrant or assurance. See REPLEVIN.  
PLEURISY. *n. f.* [*πνευμονίτις*; *pleuresis*, Fr. *pleuritis*, Lat.]  
Pleurisy is an inflammation of the pleura, though it is  
hardly distinguishable from an inflammation of any other part  
of the breast, which are all from the same cause, a stagnated  
blood; and are to be remedied by evacuation, suppuration or  
expectoration, or all together.

PLEURITICK. *adj.* [*pleurisy*.]  
1. Dificated with a pleurisy.  
The viscous matter, which lies like leather upon the ex-  
travasated blood of pleurittick people, may be dissolved by a  
due degree of heat.

2. Denoting a pleurisy.  
His blood was pleurittick, it had neither colour nor con-  
sistence.

PLYABLE. *adj.* [*pliable*, from *plier*, Fr. to bend.]  
1. Easy to be bent; flexible.  
Though an act be never so sinful, they will strip it of its  
guilt, and make the very law so pliable and bending, that it  
shall be impossible to be broke.

Whether the different motions of the animal spirits may  
have any effect on the mould of the face, when the lineam-  
ents are pliable and tender, I shall leave to the curious. Add.  
2. Flexible of disposition; easy to be persuaded.

PLIABLENESS. *n. f.* [*pliable*.]  
1. Flexibility; easiness to be bent.  
2. Flexibility of mind.

Compare the ingenious pliancy to virtuous counsels in  
youth, as it comes fresh out of the hands of nature, with the  
confirmed obliquity in most sorts of sin, that is to be found  
in an aged sinner.

PLIANCY. *n. f.* [*pliancy*.] Easiness to be bent.  
Had not exercise been necessary, nature would not have  
given such an activity to the limbs, and such a pliancy to every  
part, as produces those compressions and extensions necessary  
for the preservation of such a system.

PLIANT. *adj.* [*pliant*, French.]  
1. Bending; tough; flexible; pliant; like; limber.  
An anatomist promised to dissect a woman's tongue, and  
examine whether the fibres may not be made up of a finer  
and more pliant thread.

2. Easy to take a form.  
Particles of heav'nly fire,  
Or earth but new divided from the sky,  
And pliant still retain'd th' ethereal energy.

As the wax melts that to the flame I hold,  
Pliant and warm may still her heart remain,  
Soft to the print, but ne'er turn hard again.

3. Easily complying.  
In languages the tongue is more pliant to all sounds, the  
joints more supple to all feats of activity, in youth than after-  
wards.

Those, who bore bulwarks on their backs,  
Now practise ev'ry pliant gesture,  
Op'ning their trunk for ev'ry tester.

4. Easily persuaded.  
The wit was then ductile and pliant to right reason, it  
met the dictates of a clarified understanding halfway.

PLIANTNESS. *n. f.* [*pliant*.] Flexibility; toughness.  
Greatness of weight, closeness of parts, fixation, plian-  
cy or softness.

PLIATURE. *n. f.* [*platura*, from *plier*, Lat.] Fold; double.  
PLICATURE. *n. f.* [*platura*, from *plier*, Lat.] Fold; double.  
PLIERS. *n. f.* [*ply*.] An instrument by which any thing  
is laid hold on to bend it.

# PLO

Pliers are of two sorts, flat-nosed and round-nosed; their  
office is to hold and fasten upon a small work, and to fit it in  
its place: the round-nosed pliers are used for turning or boring  
wire or small plate into a circular form.

To PLIGHT. *v. a.* [*pliechten*, Dutch.]  
1. To pledge; to give as surety.  
He plighted his right hand  
Unto another love, and to another land.

Met the night mare, and her name told,  
Bid her alight, and her troth plight.  
I again in Henry's royal name,  
Give thee her hand for sign of plighted faith.

Here my inviolable faith I plight,  
Lo, thou be my defence, I, thy delight.  
New loves you seek,  
New vows to plight, and plighted vows to break.

I'll never mix my plighted hands with thine,  
While such a cloud of mischiefs hangs about us.  
2. To braid; to weave. [from *plio*, Lat. whence to ply or  
bend, and *plight*, *plight* or *plait*, a fold or flexure.]  
Her head she fondly would aguilie  
With gaudie girlonds, or fresh flowrets dight  
About her neck, or rings of rushes dight.

I took it for a fairy vision  
Of some gay creatures of the element,  
That in the colours of the rainbow live,  
And play i' th' plighted clouds.

PLIGHT. *n. f.* [This word *skinner* imagines to be derived from  
the Dutch, *pliecht*, office or employment; but *Junius* observes,  
that *pluit*, Saxon, signifies ditreus or preling danger; whence,  
I suppose, *plight* was derived, it being generally used in a bad  
sense.]

1. Condition; state.  
When as the careful dwarf had told,  
And made enampful of their mournful sight  
Unto his master, he no longer would  
There dwell in peril of like painful plight.

I think myself in better plight for a lender than you are.  
Befeech your highness,  
My women may be with me; for, you see,  
My plight requires it.

They in lowliest plight repentant stood  
Praying.  
Thou must not here  
Lie in this miserable loathsome plight.

Most perfect hero tried in heaviliest plight  
Of labours huge and hard.  
2. Good case.

Who abuseth his cattle and starves them for meat,  
By carting or plowing, his gain is not great;  
Where he that with labour can use them aright,  
Hath gain to his comfort, and cattle in plight.

3. Pledge; gage. [from the verb.]  
That lord, whose hand must take my plight, shall carry  
Half my love with him, half my care and duty.

4. [From *plight*.] A fold; a pucker; a double; a purtle;  
a plait.  
Yclad, for fear of scorching air,  
All in a silken camus, lilly white,  
Purs'd upon with many a folded plight.

PLINTH. *n. f.* [*πλινθίς*.] In architecture, is that square  
member which serves as a foundation to the base of a pillar;  
Vitruvius calls the upper part or abacus of the Tuscan pillar, a  
plinth, because it resembles a square tile: moreover, the same  
denomination is sometimes given to a thick wall, wherein  
there are two or three bricks advanced in form of a plat-  
band.

To PLOD. *v. n.* [*ploeghen*, Dutch. *Skinner*.]  
1. To toil; to moid; to drudge; to travel.  
A plodding diligence brings us sooner to our journey's end,  
than a fluttering way of advancing by starts.

He knows better than any man, what is not to be written;  
and never hazards himself so far as to fall, but plods on de-  
liberately, and, as a grave man ought, puts his staff before  
him.

Th' unletter'd christian, who believes in grois,  
Plods on to heav'n, and ne'er is at a loss.  
2. To travel laboriously.

Rogues, plod away o' the hoof, seek shelter, pack. Sha.  
If one of mean affairs  
May plod it in a week, why may not I  
Glide thither in a day.

Hast thou not held my stirrup?  
Bare-headed, plodded by my foot-cloth mule,  
And thought thee happy when I shook my head?

Ambitious love hath so in me offended,  
That barefoot plod I the cold ground upon,  
With faintest vow my faults to have amended.